

The Most Remarkable Edifices...

Numismagram Newsletter #40 (IV/2020)

This month's mini update is brief, as not much ever needs to be said about the incredible architectural medals produced by Jacques Wiener in the mid-1800's. This series of intricately and extravagantly engraved medals have always been a collector favorite, and their popularity only seems to be increasing. One merely needs to look at the most recent Collectors Choice Online auction at Stack's Bowers—*completed just yesterday*—to see some of the extraordinary prices achieved for these medallic works of art.

For example, the magnificent Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris is always an engaging piece, but its representation took on even more interest at about this time last year after the much followed incendiary event that saw a portion of the building destroyed. Wiener's take on this edifice, created along with his brother Charles in 1855, presents an exterior view from the south-southeast and an interior view of the nave. An example of this type sold for a total of \$529 in September 2008, and that same specimen crossed the auction block again yesterday in the aforementioned sale, this time realizing a total of \$840—an increase likely due at least in some part from the attention which the cathedral grabbed from the world last year. This month's mini features one of these captivating medals, and at a price well under yesterday's staggering amount...



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It doesn't take partial immolation to create enthusiasm for these architectural marvels along with their medallic counterparts. Take, for example, the Church of St. Ouen at Rouen...



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...or the Church of St. Geneviève in Paris...



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These types, too, continue to upward trend of the Wiener architectural series, especially in higher grades with lustrous brilliance and clean rims and fields.

Enjoy all that this series has to offer, and be on the lookout for some more

Wiener architectural types in the middle of May—*this time, some from Wiener's smaller 50mm module series*. Before that, however, we will be back on 1 May with another assortment of 20 interesting tokens and medals from around the world!

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